IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 37 and 38 as follows:

37. (Amended) Method for the *in vitro* detection of an infection due to *H. pylori* in a sample of biological fluid from a patient, comprising the steps of:

a) bringing the sample into contact with a bacterial strain, or a bacterial extract from the said bacterial strain, wherein the bacterial strain or the bacterial extract has an aflagellate phenotype resulting from a mutation, by substitution, addition and/or a deletion of bases or [of a nucleotide fragment] of a nucleotide sequence of a *flbA* gene regulating biosynthesis of a flagellar protein of *H. pylori*, [which is] this nucleotide sequence being able to hybridize, under conditions of stringency, with a probe [corresponding] which corresponds to a nucleotide fragment from *H. pylori* and which has been amplified using two oligonucleotide sequences having the following sequences:

OLFlbA-1: ATGCCTCGAGGTCGAAAAGCAAGATG (SEQ ID NO:1)

OLFlbA-2: GAAATCTTCATACTGGCAGCTCCAGTC (SEQ ID NO:2),

or able to hybridize, under conditions of high stringency, with these nucleotides; and

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